

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 806** HLS 14RS 1298
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

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| Date: March 25, 2014 2:55 PM | Author: IVEY |
| Dept./Agy.: Secretary of State | Analyst: Stephanie C. Blanchard |
| Subject: Official journal of the state | |

OFFICIAL JOURNALS OR +\$75,000 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Provides relative to the official journal of the state

Present law establishes the Official Journal of the State as a newspaper meeting criteria contained in present law. Requires the Official Journal of the State to publish advertisements, public notices, proclamations and the promulgation of all laws and joint resolutions of the legislature, and all public notices and advertising to be done by the legislature or the executive or other departments and institutions of state government. Further provides for contracts to be the printer of the Official Journal of the State. Proposed law repeals present law in its entirety. Establishes a website as the Official Journal of the State. Requires the website to make all matters published in the journal by law accessible for a minimum of 24 hours for each date of publication. In the event for extraordinary circumstances, which may effect accessibility of the website, the secretary of state may contract with a newspaper to publish items required to be published in the official journal. All matters to be published shall be published within seven business days of receipt. The secretary of state may promulgate rules and regulations. The secretary of state may establish and charge a reasonable, nominal fee for the publication of matters on the official journal website. Relative to the Official Journal of the State shall become effective on July 1, 2015 and otherwise proposed law is effective upon signature of the governor.

| EXPENDITURES | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 5 -YEAR TOTAL |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| State Gen. Fd. | \$73,000 | \$52,000 | \$52,000 | \$52,000 | \$52,000 | \$281,000 |
| Agy. Self-Gen. | SEE BELOW | SEE BELOW | SEE BELOW | SEE BELOW | SEE BELOW | |
| Ded./Other | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Federal Funds | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Local Funds | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> |
| Annual Total | | | | | | |

| REVENUES | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 5 -YEAR TOTAL |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| State Gen. Fd. | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Agy. Self-Gen. | INCREASE | INCREASE | INCREASE | INCREASE | INCREASE | |
| Ded./Other | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Federal Funds | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Local Funds | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> |
| Annual Total | | | | | | |

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The proposed legislation will result in a net increase of state general fund expenditures of the Secretary of State in the amount of approximately \$73,000 in FY 15 and approximately \$52,000 in subsequent fiscal years. The proposed legislation requires the Secretary of State to make the acts and joint resolutions of the legislature accessible on an internet website identified as the Official Journal of the State. In order to implement the legislation, an additional Election Program Specialist would be needed in the Publications section to accomplish the administrative functions required. The salaries and related benefits for this position would be approximately \$54,000 annually. Additional expenditures incurred would be for the purchase of a computer, office furniture and supplies for the new employee in the amount of \$5,000.

The Secretary of State would incur one-time costs in the amount of approximately \$16,000 in FY 15 for creation of the webpages necessary to host and search the date required by the legislation. The department's existing vendor currently charges approximately \$100 per hour for programming and the department estimates approximately 120 hours of work is necessary to make these changes (160 hours x \$100 = \$16,000).

The Legislative Fiscal Office believes that any additional IT work associated with this legislation will be incremental in nature, and that the Department can potentially accomplish these tasks utilizing existing resources and budget authority. To the extent that numerous pieces of legislation are enacted that require additional programming efforts, the Department may require additional resources.

Currently, the Secretary of State pays The Advocate newspaper \$2,000 to publish the Acts on their website annually. This amount would be saved in future years and is reflected in the expenditure table above.

NOTE: To the extent the Secretary of State charges a fee, the revenues from the fee would likely be utilized to offset anticipated expenditures.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

The proposed legislation provides that the Secretary of State may establish and charge a reasonable, nominal fee for the publication of matters on the official journal website. Currently, it is not known if the Secretary of State will charge a fee and how much the fee may be. The Advocate currently charges state agencies 28 cents per line per day and in 2013 approximately \$332,000 was collected. To the extent the Secretary of State charges a similar fee, fees and self-generated revenues would increase by a similar amount.

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| <u>Senate</u> | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | <u>House</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} | <i>Evan Brasseaux</i> Evan Brasseaux Staff Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 State Rev. Reduc. {H & S} | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H} | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} | | |